

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and applicants request that the application be favorably reconsidered in view of the remarks and amendments made herein.

Claims 7 and 26 have been rejected as being anticipated by Hay. Hay does not teach a powdered material as recited in claims 7 and 26. In Hay the media is a liquid, not a powder. See, col. 1, ln. 46-48. The particulate is diced food, not a powder. See, col. 1, 43-45.


Even if one of these materials is considered to be a powder, Hay still does not teach every limitation of the claims. Hay does not teach a second heated tube to facilitate recirculating the powdered material between the first and second heated tubes as recited in claim 7. The media is not recirculated by the heated tubes. Rather, it flows into and out of one tube or other and is recirculated by unheated tubes. The media does not flow through one heated tube and then recirculate through a second heated tube. The particulate is not recirculated at all. See, Fig. 4 and col. 12, ln. 59-67.

Dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons stated above. In addition, new dependent claims have been added, which further distinguish over the cited art.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 36110

Respectfully submitted,
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